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BOROUGH OF TEWKESBURY



ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH

for the Year 1963

STEPHEN KNIGHT, M.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ACKD. 




PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: COUNCILLOR G.S. BROWN.

Members: The Worshipful the Mayor of Tewkesbury
(Councillor L.G. Marston); Aldermen T.G.
Bannister, F.H. Knight, W.E. Lane, G.T.
Troughton; Councillors T. Adams, J.R.
Griffiths, Dr. P.K. Holding, G. Robinson,
Mrs. M.R. Shephard, B. Sweet, S. Walkley,
L.A. Webber, Mrs. G.M. Workman, H.O. Workman.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

STEPHEN KNIGHT, M.B.,B.S.,M.R.C.S.,D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health to Tewkesbury
Borough, the Urban District of Charlton Kings
and the Rural Districts of Gloucester and
Cheltenham, and the County Divisional Medical
Officer of Health for the North Gloucestershire
Divisional Area (North Gloucestershire Area
Health Sub-Committee).

J.H. TURNER, M.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector,
Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, Housing
and Petroleum Officer.

Adoptive Legislation in force in the Borough

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75 -
Provisions of Regulation Dustbins - adopted
March 21st, 1938.

Byelaws

Tents, Vans and Sheds and similar structures
- adopted 1st November 1938.

Handling, Wrapping and Delivery and Sale of
Food in the Open Air - adopted 21st April, 1952.

Building - adopted 20th April, 1953.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
TEWKESBURY.

August 12th 1964.

To the Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Tewkesbury

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year 1963.

The Report is prepared in compliance with Regulations 5(3) and 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, and Ministry of Health Circular 1/63.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer, Mr. F. Broxton and the Public Health Inspector, Mr. J.H. Turner, for sections of the Report contributed by them.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for mid-year 1963 is 5,940, an increase of 60 on the previous year.

There were 106 births during the year, 6 more than in 1962, making the Birth Rate 17.8 per 1,000 population as compared with the national average of 18.2.

3 infants under one year of age died during the year, so that the infant mortality is at the rate of 28.3 deaths per 1,000 births as compared with 21.1 for England and Wales. It will be noted that the numbers are small so one such death gives rise to a marked increase in the local mortality rate.

79 people died, a decrease of 6 from the previous year, the Death Rate being 13.3 per 1,000 population as against 12.2 for the country as a whole.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease was extremely light, due in no small measure to the excellent response in the Borough to schemes for immunisation and vaccination.

After a public inquiry the Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed without modification the Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the Oldbury Road Clearance Area.

Schemes for the suitable redevelopment of this important area are under consideration by the Council.

The Hospital Plan for England and Wales recently published caused the Council to make representations to the Regional Hospital Board regarding the future of the hospital service in Tewkesbury. It was urged that these services should be expanded rather than curtailed or withdrawn. The Board stated it would be some considerable time before any change was likely to occur in the use of the hospitals in Tewkesbury and further more there would be no closure without careful consideration and local consultation.

New dwellings are under construction at Prior's Park and Station Street. Included in these schemes are 12 one bedroom flats suitable for elderly people.

The acute housing shortage in the Borough has not yet been overcome as there are some 200 applicants waiting for accommodation.

I am glad to be able to take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to the Mayor, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, and members of the Council for their support and to my colleagues for their co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health

VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give particulars of the births and deaths in the Borough, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found in Table 1.

1. Live Births.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate ...	97	46	51
Illegitimate...	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Total ...	<u>106</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>55</u>

Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.8
Area comparability factor (Births) ...	1.03
Corrected Live Birth Rate (1.03 x 17.8)...	18.3
Illegitimate Live Births (percentage of total live births) ...	8.5

2. Still Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ...	27.5
Total Live and Still Births ...	109

3. Infant Deaths

(i) Deaths of Infants under 1 year

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	3	2	1
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

(ii) Neo-natal Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	3	2	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

(iii) Early Neo-natal deaths, Deaths of Infants under 1 week

Number: Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

4. Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births	28.3
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	31.0
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 per 1,000 total live births)	28.3
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	19.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	46.0
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	
Number of deaths	NIL
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	NIL

5. Deaths

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number	79	44	35
Death Rate per 1,000 population			13.3
Area comparability factor (deaths)			0.92
Corrected Death Rate (13.3 x 0.92)			12.2

Area Comparability Factor is prepared by the Registrar General and makes allowance for the age distribution in Tewkesbury as compared with the national average. The Corrected Birth and Death Rates could be used for purposes of comparison.

Table of Comparison

Births, Death and Infantile Mortality Rates in the
Borough for the past five years

			<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Birth Rate	...	...	16.9	18.8	20.2	17.0	17.8
Death Rate	...	...	10.3	19.0	14.1	14.4	13.3
Infantile Mortality Rate	...	...	42.6	12.4	17.4	30.0	28.3

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH IN 1963

Table 1 gives the causes of death in the Borough in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948.

Table 1

Causes of Death						Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...		..	..
2	Tuberculosis, other	....	...	...	...	..	..
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	..	..
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	..	..
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	..	..
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...		..	..
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	..	..
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	..	..
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases					..	..
10*	(Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...			3	1
11	(Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	...				4	..
12	(Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...			..	..
13	(Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...			..	..
14	(Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms					2	2
15	(Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...		..	..
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...				5	4
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...		9	2
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...				1	..
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	2	12
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...		5	2
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	..	2
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2	3
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	..
25	Other diseases of respiratory system					1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...			1	..
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...				..	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...		1	..
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...		1	..
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...				..	..
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...		1	..
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases					2	2
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...		1	1
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	1	..
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	..	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...			..	..
Total						44	35

EXPLANATORY NOTE: * Neoplasm equals Cancer

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE BOROUGH

Area (in acres): 2,614 (including 96 acres of water)
Population (Registrar General's estimate of Home Population mid-1963): 5,940.
Number of inhabited houses (31st December, 1963) according to the rate book: 1,872.
Sum represented by a penny rate £799 (net).
Rateable Value: £200,952.
General Rate: 1963 - 1964: 10/6d. (County Precept: 7/6d).

Social Conditions and Chief Industries

The ancient and historic town of Tewkesbury is situated at the confluence of the River Severn and the River Avon and is on the main trunk road from the North and Midlands to the South West. The motorway designed to take the traffic off this route, at present terminates just north of the Town, so that all traffic passes through the main streets causing serious nuisance from incessant noise, fumes and dirt. Conditions have become intolerable and can only be ameliorated by extension of the Motorway which is most urgent.

The Town is an important shopping and educational centre and attracts many tourists because of its historic nature; its architectural features; the Abbey, and rivers.

The needs of the visitors are met by the catering trade which is one of the chief industries. These facilities are augmented by caravan and camping sites, tennis courts, putting greens and children's swimming pool, all of which have been provided by the Council.

The other industries in the Town, engineering, flour milling and boat building continue to develop.

Unemployment

Miss J. Wilkinson, Manager of the local Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied the following report:

Employment Exchange records for January 1963 show the comparatively high figure of 207 persons unemployed, mainly due to the weather conditions. But it must be remembered that the Exchange covers a much greater area than the Borough and probably half of this number were resident outside Tewkesbury. There was a continuing decrease in the number unemployed until October - November, when the figure rose slightly, as is usual at this time of the year. Surprisingly, in December, there was a sharp drop to 53, which was the lowest figure recorded for the year. This worked out at 0.9% unemployed persons in the area, comparing very favourably with the National percentage of 2.5 for the same date.

By the end of 1963 there was an improvement in the demand for labour as compared with the previous year. Jobs were found during the year for 352 persons including 5 Registered Disabled Persons and Tewkesbury appears to have been more fortunate than some parts of the country in the number of openings available for young persons.

The vacancy "pattern" remains the same - vacancies in the engineering and building trades for men and, catering trades and other domestic work for women.

There is still a need for light indoor work suitable for the older unskilled worker and disabled persons.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE BOROUGH

Laboratory Services

The examination of pathological specimens, and the bacteriological examination of milk, ice cream and water is carried out at the Gloucester Royal Hospital Laboratory, under the Medical Research Council's Scheme, free of charge.

Chemical analysis of water and sewage samples taken by the Public Health Inspector are carried out by the City Analyst, Worcester.

Water analyses for the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board works are carried out by the Chemist to the Board.

Hospitals

The Council have no responsibility for arranging hospital treatment, except with regard to old people in need of care and attention and dealt with under the National Assistance Acts.

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over (Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Hospital Management Committee).

Ambulance Facilities

The County Council have an Ambulance Station in Oldbury Road with an establishment of four full-time drivers.

Nursing in the Home

Two District Nurses appointed by the County Health Committee live in the Borough and give a midwifery and general nursing service in the Borough and in the neighbouring parishes of Ashchurch, Tredington and Twynning.

Home Help Service

The Home Help Service is organised by the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council; it provides for domestic help of the aged, sick and handicapped in their own homes. With this assistance, many old people are helped to carry on in familiar surroundings.

Miss L.C. Cross, Area Home Help Organiser, Divisional Health Office, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, gives the following particulars of work done during the year:-

There has been a very slight overall increase, the number of cases assisted was 44, of whom 9 were maternity cases and the remainder general sickness, old age and chronically sick.

Difficulty is being experienced in finding the right type of Home Help but so far all calls for assistance have been met as they arrive.

National Assistance Acts,
1948 and 1951.

Under these Acts, the Council have authorised the Medical Officer of Health to arrange, if need be, for the compulsory removal to hospital or to residential hostel, of any person who is aged, sick and incapacitated, is living in insanitary conditions, is unable to care for himself and is not receiving proper care and attention from other people.

No application was made to the Court during the year; the Home Help Service being able to render sufficient assistance.

Mothers' Club

A Mothers' Club open to all mothers whose children are not over school age has been formed and meets each month at the Clinic, Church Street. The Club has proved most popular and successful.

Tewkesbury Old People's Welfare Committee

The Golden Hour Club meets at fortnightly intervals. The Club premises are open at other times to members and visitors who are over 60 years of age. Lonely sick persons in hospital and at home are visited. Welfare foods at reduced cost are available to old age pensioners in the Borough.

Chiropody Service

The chiropody service is operated under the Gloucestershire County Council National Health Scheme at a cost of 2s. per treatment, which is provided at the Golden Hour Club Headquarters.

A total of 671 treatments were carried out - to the elderly at the Clinic 406 and at home 53, to handicapped persons at the Clinic 2 and at home 10.

Transport for physically handicapped persons in the Borough to attend for treatment is provided by the Tewkesbury Old People's Welfare Committee.

The chiropodist devotes 5 days per 28 days to work in Tewkesbury.

Health Visiting

Two Health Visitors are employed by the County Council for Tewkesbury and the neighbouring parishes. They operate from the Clinic in Church Street. Their main functions are prevention of disease and to provide health education by example in the home and at the clinic, for families under their care.

Family Social Worker

The County Council Children's Department employ a family social worker in the Borough and adjacent districts, giving advice, encouragement and where necessary, practical demonstrations in the home.

Problem Families

The scheme agreed between the County Council and the Borough Council for the rehabilitation of problem families living in Council houses continued to operate during the year. When arrears of rent are such as to render a family liable to eviction from a Council house, the circumstances are reported to the County Council's Social Welfare Officer. 9 cases were accepted under the scheme whereby the County Council guarantee three quarters of the rent. No less than 15 cases were withdrawn from the scheme because the rent arrears had been paid and the problems in the home resolved. At the end of the year only 4 families were still under supervision.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Child Welfare Centre

Held weekly in the Clinic, Church Street, on Thursdays from 2.30 to 4.0 p.m. and run with commendable success by a Voluntary Committee, this centre is under the general administration of the Area Sub-Committee of the County Council, which includes members of this Council.

Table 2 records the number of sessions and attendances at the Centre during the year:-

Table 2

No. of Sessions	No. of children attending			Total No. of Attendances		
	Year of birth			Under 1	1 - 2 years	3 - 5 years
	1963	1962	1958-61			
49	69	66	120	856	314	308

Tewkesbury Clinic, Church Street

The Clinic opens as follows:-

Ante-Natal Clinic: Weekly, Wednesday afternoons (Relaxation Classes - fortnightly, Tuesdays).
Probation Officer: Weekly, Thursday evening (5 - 7 p.m.)
Orthopaedic Clinic: Weekly, Tuesday mornings (10 - 12 noon). Attended by an Orthopaedic Sister.
Speech Therapy Clinic: Weekly, Friday afternoons.
Dental Clinic: Monday mornings.
Welfare Foods: Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings.
Mothers' Club: 7.30 p.m. second Tuesday each month.

Tewkesbury Hospital, Barton Road.

Chest Clinic: Fortnightly, Monday afternoons, attended by Chest Physician.
G.U. Clinic: Tuesday mornings.
Medical Clinic: Wednesday mornings.
Gynaecology Clinic: First and third Wednesday afternoons.
Orthopaedic Clinic: Second, third and fourth Thursday mornings.
Ophthalmic Clinic: Friday mornings.
General Surgical: Friday afternoons.

MORTUARIES

If necessary, use is made of the Tewkesbury Hospital Mortuary.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Table 3, on page 16, shows the incidence of notifiable disease by age groups. The incidence of any of the notifiable diseases was extremely light.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during 1963:-

Age at 31.12.63 (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 year 1963	1 year 1962	2-4 years 59-61	5-14 years 49-58	Under 15 years Total
Primary Immunisation	53	38	9	1	101
Reinforcing Injection	-	10	46	50	106

The state of immunisation against diphtheria continues to be satisfactory. 106 babies were born during the year, while 101 children under 15 years of age were immunised. The object of the campaign is for all babies to complete the course for immunisation before they are one year old. The response in Tewkesbury is good. Parents, doctors and nurses and the Child Welfare Centre are to be congratulated.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

The number of children vaccinated against whooping cough during 1963:-

Age at 31.12.63 (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 year 1963	1 year 1962	2-4 years 59-61	5-14 years 49-58	Under 15 years Total
Primary Vaccination	53	38	9	1	101
Booster Injection	-	10	43	4	57

A trivalent vaccine (diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus) is now in use so that the number of children protected against one disease approximates to the number protected against the other two diseases.

Vaccination against Smallpox

Persons vaccinated in the year 1963:-

Under 1 year		1 year		2 - 4 years		5 - 14 years		Over 15 years	
Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.
9	-	12	-	-	-	2	-	1	-

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Vaccination against poliomyelitis is successful and no case of this disease occurred.

Tuberculosis

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis, but the cases on the register numbered 25. Infection is still taking place; one new case was notified during the year.

Tuberculosis could be eliminated if full use were made of the preventive measures such as Mass Radiography, B.C.G. Vaccination, and investigation of contacts. The Borough Council plays its part in giving priority in rehousing tuberculous persons.

Mass Radiography

No public sessions of the Mass Radiography unit were held during the year.

Tuberculosis After-Care

A Joint After-Care Committee serves the Borough and the Rural District of Gloucester.

Funds are dependent on voluntary subscriptions augmented by the County Council from the charity level on the Sunday opening of cinemas. So far, no deserving case has been refused assistance.

Table 3 NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1963 BY AGE GROUPS

Disease	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65	Age N.K.	Total
Scarlet Fever
Whooping Cough	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Measles	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3
Ac. Poliomyelitis(P)
Ac. Poliomyelitis(N.P.)
Tuberculosis(Respiratory)
Tuberculosis(Meninges)
Tuberculosis(Other)
Diphtheria
Small Pox
Meningococcal Infection
Ac. Encephalitis(Inf.)
Ac. Encephalitis(Post. Inf.)
Dysentery
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Puerperal Pyrexia
Acute Pneumonia
(Prim. or 'Flu)
Para-typhoid Fever
Enteric Fever
Food Poisoning
Erysipelas
Malaria(contr.E.W.)
Total	..	3	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	5

TUBERCULOSIS

Table 4. New, In-Transfer Cases, Deaths and Number Remaining on the Register on 31st December, 1963.

	Respiratory		Meninges/C.N.S.		Other Forms		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
New Cases	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
In-Transfer Cases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
On Register 31.12.63.	14	11	..	..	..	..	25

CANCER

Table 5. Death Rates from Cancer per 1,000 population

	England and Wales	Tewkesbury Borough
	Persons	Persons
Cancer of the Lung	0.519	0.67
Other Cancer	1.658	1.35

Four persons, all men, died of cancer of the lung making the local death rate from this form of cancer higher than the national average.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE BOROUGH

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied in bulk by the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board. The supply is derived from the River Severn and receives treatment by pre-chlorination, coagulation of the suspended solids by sulphate of alumina, sedimentation in upward-flow tanks, rapid gravity filtration through sand, pH correction with lime and final sterilisation with chlorine and/or ammonia. There is no plumbo-solvent action.

Water Supplies in the Borough

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, Table 6 shows the water supplies, number of houses and population on the 31st December, 1963.

No. of Houses	Served by	Population
1861	Mains Supply	5916
8	Stand pipes	18
3	Well	6

A new 4" main was laid between the Oldfield and Priors Park Estates during the construction of the new road linking the two Estates. New extensions to the main were also provided for the Council housing developments taking place at Cottesswold Road and Priors Park.

The Chemist to the Joint Water Board (J. Henderson, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.) has kindly supplied the following report:-

The bacteriological condition of the water supply to the Borough of Tewkesbury has been very satisfactory throughout the year, despite the very variable quality, and intense pollution, of the River Severn from which it is derived. The complicated problem of the sewage pollution of the river is one which, despite effort, is not likely to be solved in the foreseeable future; the important index of excremental bacteria showed no change during 1963.

The chemical quality of the water varied only within the known limits. Despite minor incidents of discolouration, due to distribution difficulties, the overall picture is that of a pure and wholesome supply.

Bacteriological Examinations

No. of samples of raw water:	162.
No. of samples unsatisfactory:	162.
No. of samples of treated water:	990.
No. of samples of final water:	776.
No. of samples satisfactory:	763.

Radioactive Contamination of Water Supply

Examinations of water samples and rainfall have been continued throughout the year.

Following the maximum activity in the rainfall/snowfall of January 1963, and in the absence of further nuclear testing, there was a gradual decline in activity throughout the year, interspersed with two minor increases in May and July. The general level of activity has returned to that of late 1961, and should now continue to fall to the basic level which existed prior to the 1961 Russian test series.

The contamination of the river water has shown a like reduction in harmony with that of the precipitation. The activity of the source of the Borough's domestic water is now at a satisfactory low level but, even at the highest recorded level of activity, there always remained a considerable safety factor.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SURVEYOR

(F. Broxton, Esq., M.I.Mun.E., A.R.I.C.S.)

Sewerage

No significant changes made during the year. Permission was obtained from the farmer who cultivates the fields adjoining the works to pump sewage sludge on to the land and we were able to practically empty the large lagoon in this way. If we can do this each year it will be of great benefit to us as sludge drying and disposal is still the main problem. Erection of the houses in Cotswold Place was commenced and the River Board have been pressing the Dairy to take action concerning the discharge of their effluent into the River Carrant so that the need for a new scheme in place of the existing 50 gal. ejector is essential and plans for a new pumping station will shortly be put before the Council.

Refuse Collection

A weekly collection of refuse has been maintained despite labour difficulties. A new tractor with rotaped tracks, blade and bucket was purchased and this has helped considerably in the problem of disposal. Each year the number of premises to be collected from increases and while we are still absorbing them into the ordinary collection rounds some revision will soon have to take place with an inevitable increase in the number of personnel employed. The refuse tips used were the Moats during the winter months and for the summer the Ham tip.

Public Conveniences

The two turnstiles were removed, one from Station Street and the other from the Gloucester Road Car Park conveniences. This as anticipated resulted in a decrease in income. During the summer months an additional female attendant was employed, each woman being responsible for two toilets. This meant that more attention was given and a better degree of cleanliness obtained, but it is essential that to reach a high degree of supervision and thus prevent misuse, full time attendants are the only answer.

Swimming Pool

During the year owing to unfortunate circumstances there developed a general descaling of the paintwork over the whole of the pool. Consequently this affected the standard of purity of the water and one or two poor samples were obtained. They were not bad enough to warrant the closing of the pool for remedial work to be carried out but it is intended that before the pool re-opens in 1964 to give the whole of the pool a thorough clean off with chemicals, treat the surface and then repaint. If this is done, while it may not completely cure the trouble it will greatly improve the condition and if it is done each year it may eliminate it altogether. The number of children attending showed a big increase over the previous year but not quite up to 1961 standard.

Comparative figures for 1962 and 1963 are:-

	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Attendance by School Parties	5197	6078
Casual attendance	<u>2324</u>	<u>3844</u>
	<u>7521</u>	<u>9922</u>

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(J.H. Turner, Esq., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.)

Public Health Department,
Oldbury Road,
Tewkesbury.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the following section of the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report concerning the public health inspection work carried out in 1963.

The emphasis of my work during the year was again concerned with inspections and visits in connection with housing generally, housing management, food premises and meat inspection.

In order to maintain 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered at the private slaughterhouse in the Borough, it was necessary to work during some weekends. Slaughtering is normally carried out on weekdays but owing to the difficulty of the slaughterhouse owner in obtaining and retaining slaughtermen, slaughtering was carried out by slaughtermen from another district. It is hoped that this problem will soon be resolved.

Very little progress in slum clearance can be reported for the year, due again to lack of housing available for displaced tenants. However, completion of new flats next year should allow some acceleration in the rate of demolition of unfit dwellings.

Finally, may I record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for unfailing encouragement, courtesy and help, and to the Medical Officer of Health and other Officers for their active co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. TURNER,

Public Health Inspector.

Table 7. Summary of the Number and Type of Visits Carried Out:

TYPE OF VISIT	NO. OF VISITS	NOTICES SERVED		NO. OF PREMISES AT WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED AFTER NOTICE	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling Houses:					
Public Health Acts	49	19	1	17	1
Housing Acts	83	4	-	4	-
Housing Management	207	-	-	-	-
Slaughterhouses & Meat Inspect.	161	-	-	-	-
Food Premises	70	17	-	15	-
Milk & Dairies	1	-	-	-	-
Factories	12	2	-	2	-
Pest Control	57	7	-	7	-
Drainage and Sewerage	33	11	-	11	-
Caravans and Sites	8	2	-	2	-
Water Supplies	4	-	-	-	-
Infectious Disease	0	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	77	3	1	3	1
TOTAL	762	65	2	63	2

HOUSING

New dwellings erected during the year:

(a)	By the Local Authority:			
	(i)	Permanent non-traditional	...	Nil
	(ii)	Permanent traditional	...	Nil
(b)	By other authorities	...	...	Nil
(c)	Tewkesbury Housing Society	...	...	Nil
(d)	Private enterprise	...	...	27
		Total		<u>27</u>

Dwellings under construction for the Council at 31.12.63:

96 flats and maisonettes comprising:

12	1 bedroom type
56	2 bedroom type
16	3 bedroom type
12	4 bedroom type

Dwellings constructed in the Borough since the war (1.4.45 to 31.12.63):

By the Local Authority	...	...	...	522
By private enterprise	...	...	...	200
		Total		<u>722</u>

Number of dwellings controlled or owned by the Council at 31.12.63:

(i)	Under the various Housing Acts	...	720
(ii)	Corporate Property	...	24
	Total		<u>744</u>

Included in (i) above are 60 dwellings suitable for occupation by old people (37 one-bedroom flats, 21 one-bedroom bungalows, 2 two-bedroom bungalows) and 18 flats specifically for occupation by old people.

Unfit Houses Statutory Action during the year

1. Housing Act 1957, Part 2, Individual Unfit Houses:	
(a) Number of Closing Orders made by the Council	3
(b) Number of Demolition Orders made by the Council	Nil
(c) Number of undertakings accepted by the Council	1

(d) Number of houses demolished as a result of informal or formal action	Nil
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2. Housing Act, Section 42. Clearance Areas:

(a) Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas	Nil
(b) Clearance Orders made during the year	Nil
(c) Clearance Orders under consideration	Nil
(d) Compulsory Purchase Orders made during the year	Nil
(e) Compulsory Purchase Orders confirmed by the Minister after Public Inquiry	1

Improvement Grants

The Number of grants applied for during 1963 was again disappointingly low, although the Council give favourable consideration whenever possible to applicants for grant. Some degree of compulsory improvement is, regrettably, going to be necessary, if properties which are reasonably sound at the present time are not to deteriorate into the slums of the future.

	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Discretionary</u>
No. of improvement grants approved for owner/occupied dwellings	7	2
No. of improvement grants approved for rented houses	Nil	Nil

Rent Act, 1957

No action was necessary during the year under the provisions of this Act.

HOUSING MANAGEMENT

The following table shows the number of applicants on the waiting list at the 31st December, 1963:

Applicants' Requirements		No.	%
Old People's Accommodation	...	40	20
1-bedroom Accommodation	...	51	26
2-bedroom Accommodation	...	69	35
3-bedroom Accommodation	...	34	17
4-bedroom Accommodation	...	4	2
Total		198	

The number of applicants on the waiting list at the end of 1963 was 198. Although this is an apparent reduction of almost 100 on last year's figure, more than half of it is due to the revision of the waiting list which I now carry out annually. The number of applicants is also decreasing due to the wider choice of reasonably priced private houses for sale, becoming available in the district. No new Council dwellings were provided during the year, but 23 applicants were rehoused consequent upon vacancies arising in the existing stock of dwellings. Of these 23, 4 were tenants of unfit properties which were subject to closing orders or undertakings. Transfers and exchanges effected during the year totalled 26.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD

Details of the type of food premises in the Borough and the number of inspections carried out during the year are given in Table 8.

Table 8.

TYPE OF BUSINESS	NO.	INSPECTIONS	REGISTERED PREMISES F. & D. ACT	
			Section 16(a)	Section 16(b)
Catering	55	35	11	-
Butchers	10	8	-	6
Bakers and Confectioners	7	5	3	-
Grocers & Greengrocers	32	11	22	4
Sweet Shops	10	2	9	-
Fishmongers (Wet and Fried Fish)	4	2	1	1
Licensed Premises	19	7	1	-
Dairies	1	-	1	-
Other	3	-	-	-
Total	141	70	48	11

Inspections of food premises revealed no major contraventions of Food Hygiene Regulations although some minor contraventions were observed. Most Traders are co-operative in remedying any matters which are brought to their notice.

The trend towards more self service in the grocery and provision business continues, but there are some inherent dangers in this method of retailing which must be watched. It is essential that proper rotation of stock is carried out in order to prevent deterioration of foodstuffs and adequate refrigeration facilities are essential for perishable goods. However these facilities should be properly used and understood. The storing of food in a refrigerator overnight and the display of the same food at atmospheric temperature during the day, causing excessive bacteriological growth, is one example of improper use of refrigeration facilities.

Food Hygiene Regulations have helped the Public Health Inspector a great deal in bringing about improved conditions in food premises, but would not greater improvements ensue if all such premises were required by law to seek registration with the local authority; registration to be conditional upon prior and continued compliance with Food Hygiene Regulations?

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

The one private slaughterhouse in the Borough continued to operate satisfactorily. 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered was maintained. Two cases of localised cysticercus bovis were found; refrigeration of the unaffected offal and carcase was carried out in accordance with Ministry recommendations. The liver fluke was again the main cause for the condemnation of parts of carcasses.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Three slaughtermen's licences were granted during the year.

Meat Inspection

Table 9

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed(if known)	298	-	11	1053	550	1912
Number inspected	298	-	11	1053	550	1912
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	1	-	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	38	-	1	2	6	47
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	12.7	-	18.2	0.28	1.1	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	5	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.99	-
<u>Cysticercosis:</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-	2
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-	2
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Carcases found to be unfit:

1 calf	Immaturity	...	...	Wt.	30 lb.
1 sheep	Injury, emaciation, oedema			Wt.	25 lb.
	Total				<u>55 lb.</u>

Parts of carcasses and offal found to be unfit:

Cause							Weight
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	70 lb.
Fascioliasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	328 lb.
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	70 lb.
Pneumonia, Peritonitis, Pleurisy, Pericarditis							3 lb.
Actinobacillosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Haemorrhages	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 lb.
Degeneration	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Cyst and Parasites (exc. C. Bovis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 lb.
Cysticercus Bovis	...	...	...	...	...	...	64 lb.
Total							571 lb.

Total weight of meat rejected as unfit - 626 lb.

Inspection of other Foods

Suspected unsound food may be brought by the complainant to the Public Health Department for examination but is usually examined at the food premises where the food is sold or stored.

All the foods detailed below were surrendered by food traders as unfit and were disposed of on the Council's tip.

Article	Non-Preserved	Preserved (canned)
Meat	-	8 lb. 15 oz.
Milk and Cream	-	6 lb. -
Fish	63 lb.	1 lb. 8 oz.
Vegetables (various)	-	43 lb. 2 oz.
Fruits	-	60 lb. 14 oz.
Miscellaneous	-	3 lb. 9 oz.
Total weight of foodstuffs	63 lb.	123 lb. -

Ice-Cream

There are 48 vendors of ice-cream in the Borough, 47 retailing prepacked ice-cream which is manufactured in bulk outside the Borough and one manufacturing and retailing his own cold mix ice-cream.

Six samples of ice-cream were obtained from vendors during the year, in order to assess the hygienic standards of manufacture, distribution and storage. All the samples were reported to be Grade 1.

Milk Supplies

The Council's principal powers controlling local milk supplies relate to the conveyance and distribution of milk, including the enforcement of preventive measures against the spread of milkborne diseases.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is the statutory authority controlling milk production at dairy farms and the County Council is the authority for the issue of licences for pasteurising and sterilising plants and to dealers in specially designated milk.

Details of the registration of distributors and dairies other than dairy farms, in accordance with the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, are:

Distributors registered	...	...	16
Dairies registered	...	...	1

Food Control - Adulteration and Quality

The sampling of food and drugs to check compositional standards and quality and to detect adulteration, abstraction, substitution and false or misleading descriptions, is carried out in the Borough by the County Council's Weights and Measures Inspectorate. The following table has been abstracted from information kindly supplied by the Chief Weights and Measures Inspector.

Article	Nos. of Samples		Result	
	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	40	5	44	1
Preserves	8	2	10	-
Sausage	5	2	7	-
Beverages	2	2	4	-
Porridge Oats, Macaroni	1	2	3	-
Mustard, Mixed Spice	1	2	2	-
Baking & Raising Powder	1	2	2	-
Canned Meats	6	-	6	-
Canned Vegetables	3	-	3	-
Pickles and Sauces	2	-	2	-
Dried Fruit	2	-	2	-
Ice Cream & Ice cream Powder	2	-	2	-
Shredded Beef Suet	2	-	2	-
Lard	1	-	1	-
Rice Pudding	1	-	1	-
Plain Flour	1	-	1	-
Desicated Coconut	1	-	1	-
Frozen Fish Fingers	1	-	1	-
Custard Powder	1	-	1	-
Toffee Peppercorns	1	-	1	-
Total	80	17	96	1

One informal milk sample from a single churn was deficient in milk fat. Appropriate advice was given to the producer.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Rodent Control duties are carried out by an employee of the Borough Engineer's Department on a part-time basis. The ready co-operation of the Borough Engineer in releasing the Rodent Operator from his other duties when required is much appreciated.

A summary of the work carried out in the Borough during the year appears hereunder:

Property	Inspections and Re- Inspections	Treatments
Dwellings Houses	158	100
All other (inc. business premises)	130	63
Local Authority (inc. tips) . . .	45	35
Agricultural	-	-
Total	333	198

Selected sections of the Borough's sewerage system were treated twice during the year.

Details of treatments carried out on refuse tips and at the sewage works are given below.

Situation	Inspections	Treatments
Oldfield	7	5
Gander Lane	20	19
Walton Cardiff	4	Nil
Severn Ham	2	1
Sewage Works	3	2
Total	36	27

DISINFESTATION

One treatment was given for the clearance of wasps during the year. Regular spraying of the tips was carried out from April to October to contain and reduce if possible the fly population. However, whilst every new load of collected house refuse brings its quota of flies, it is impossible to effectively deal with this problem. Housewives could assist much more than they do, if all vegetable refuse and food scraps were wrapped in paper and if all empty cans were washed out, before placing in the bin. Very few householders take the trouble to scald the inside of bins occasionally with boiling water. The practice in some continental countries of steaming out refuse bins has much to commend it.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES

There are three principal sites in the Borough:

1. Adjoining the Municipal Car Park on the Gloucester Road and close to the children's swimming pool and public conveniences, is the Council-owned caravan site. Sites are let to holiday caravanners during the summer season only.
2. At the Odessa Inn, Gloucester Road, is a privately owned caravan site, licensed for ten residential and fifteen seasonal caravans. Flush water closets, mains water and fire prevention equipment are provided on the site.
3. At the Vineyards Park is a holiday encampment owned by the Council which is in use mainly during August. Up to a hundred tents can be accommodated without congestion. An ablution block with a wash hand basin and three water closets for each sex is available on the site.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Two licenses were issued during the year, one in respect of a dog breeder and the other to a pet shop. Satisfactory conditions were maintained at both premises in accordance with the licence provisions.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953

During routine observations at shops offering for sale oil, gas and electric heating appliances, no unguarded or improperly guarded appliances were found.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades established in the Borough.

RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

One upholsterer is registered under this Act.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928

Eleven licences for the storage of petroleum spirit were issued during the year. Routine inspections and pressure tests of petroleum storage tanks ensure that licence conditions are complied with. The underground tanks at three licensed premises were pressure tested during the year and one tank failed to pass the test. This was subsequently replaced, the new tanks being installed in accordance with the Home Office Code of Practice for Petrol Filling Stations.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS 1961

Inspections for the purposes or provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspec- tions.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prose- cuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	50	10	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	3	2	-	-
Total	54	12	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness, S.1	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding, S.2 ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperatures, S.3	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation, S.4	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors, S.6 ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences, S.7					
(a) Insufficient ...	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	2	-	-	-

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

No outworkers were reported in the Borough during the year.

